

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
THE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORIES
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February 5, 1955

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
College of Agriculture
The University of Wisconsin
Madison 6, Wisconsin

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

Your letter of last April 28 has now remained unanswered for nine months largely because of my absence as exchange professor at the Sorbonne. I was very grateful for the reference to the figure which I used in my book. Unfortunately, with my travels in Europe and other trips the book is still not out, although it is expected within a few weeks.

Your mentioning chemotaxis is very interesting because, of course, it is a mysterious phenomenon. The idea of a gradient along the length of a 2 or 3 μ cell is not a very attractive one. I have a detailed treatment of phototaxis, naturally, in connection with photosynthesis, but I doubt whether I have said anything about chemotaxis except perhaps to remark that it is very odd.

I have heard from several sources of your demonstration of the fusion "waltz". I wish I had been able to include it in my book, but alas, the delays mean that in some respects the book is already out of date.

With personal regards.

Yours sincerely,



Kenneth V. Thimann
Professor of Biology

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